Model villages in Himachal Pradesh

1683. SHRI ANIL SHARMA: Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of villages in Himachal Pradesh developed as model villages under the Centrally-sponsored Rural Sanitation Programme;

(b) the amount earmarked for the purpose during 1998-99;

(c) whether the Himachal Pradesh Government have sent a scientific project to Central Government for approval and release of funds under the programme; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL): (a) to (d) Under the Centrally Sponsored Rural Sanitation Programme (CRSP), one village is being developed as model village in Himachal Pradesh.

There is no separate earmarking of funds for this component under the CRSP; and the State Government has to prepare projects for approval and subsequent release of funds, based on the progress of work under the projects.

The Government of Himachal Pradesh has not sent any specific proposal for consideration.

Houses to the disabled under IAY

1684. SHRI YERRA NARAYANA-SWAMY: Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a certain percentage of IAY houses are to be allotted to disabled people;

(b) if so, the stipulate percentage;

(c) whether this aspect of the IAY programme is being monitored;

(d) if so, the findings on the implementation of the scheme for disabled people;

(e) whether any request has been made to enhance IAY housing for Andhra Pradesh; and

(f) if so, Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Consequent to the coming into effect of the Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act 1997, it has been decided by the Government of India to earmark 3% of the funds for the benefit of persons with disabilities under IAY.

(c) and (d) IAY guideline stipulate that monitoring of disabled persons should form part and parcel of Monthly Progress Report which are furnished by State Governments. However since this provision has been recently introduced, most of the State Governments have not furnished details of houses allotted to disabled persons.

(e) and (f) Government of Andhra Pradesh has requested for 50,000 additional houses under IAY during 1998-99 due to floods. No additional funds have been allocated to Andhra Pradesh in response to this request.

Replacement of the rural drinking water schemes

1685. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) what is the system used by the Drinking Water Mission to estimate replacement cost of rural drinking water schemes;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Drinking Water Mission will have to replace schemes which have already had a life of 15 years;

(c) how many such schemes will have to be replaced in 1998-99;

(d) whether adequate funds are available to constantly replace old systems;

(e) whether any study has been done of the earliest installed rural drinking water systems and their technical life; and

(f) what steps are proposed to ensure efficient and regular replacement of old rural drinking water system?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL): (a) to (f) Rural Water Supply is a state